

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Abrams Creek, Upper Opequon Creek and Lower Opequon Creek. These streams are listed on the 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standards for Bacteria. The Abrams Creek stream segment is located in the city of Winchester and Frederick County. It is 10.8 miles in length and begins at the headwaters and continues to the confluence with Opequon Creek. The Upper Opequon Creek stream segment is located in Frederick County and Winchester. It is 22.4 miles in length and begins at the headwaters and continues to the confluence with Abrams Creek. The Lower Opequon Creek stream segment is located in Frederick County. It is 8.73 miles in length and begins at the confluence with Abrams Creek and continues downstream to the WVA state line.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

The final public meeting on the development of the Abrams Creek and Upper and Lower Opequon Creek bacteria TMDLs will be held on **Tuesday, July 8, 2003, 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held in the Henkel Building's Hester Auditorium, which is located on the campus of Shenandoah University at 1460 University Drive in Winchester, Virginia. Driving directions are available at http://www.su.edu/find_us.asp, and a campus map at http://www.su.edu/campus_map1.html.

A copy of the draft TMDL document addressing the Abrams Creek and Upper and Lower Opequon Creek bacteria impairments will be ready for review on July 7, 2003. The public comment period will run from July 7, 2003 to August 6, 2003. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Gary Flory. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Gary Flory, Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 3000, Harrisonburg, Virginia, 22801, telephone (540) 574-7840, fax (540) 574-7878, or e-mail gflory@deq.state.va.us.